

FRIDAY NIGHT FACTS

Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor

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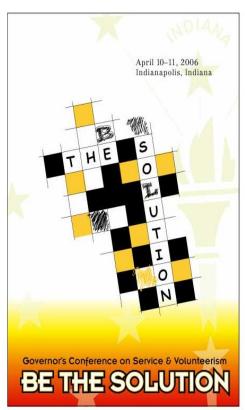
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Welcome to Friday Night Facts! This week, I had the opportunity to attend the White House Conference on Philanthropy in Washington, DC. It was exciting to be there and to hear President Bush talk about his continued commitment to faith-based initiatives. I was extremely pleased that Indiana had such a strong representation. I believe there were at least 15 people representing our great state. This definitely shows our desire to make a difference in all of our communities. I hope more of you will be able to attend this conference next year.

We are continuing to work on next month's *Governor's Conference on Service & Volunteerism*. I am looking forward to seeing you there.





CONFERENCE COUNTDOWN...31 DAYS!

The conference registration mailers were sent out last week. Hopefully, you have received yours and will be able to join us. We are extremely excited because our registration count is now close to 300. This is definitely a conference you won't want to miss! You can still register on line at www.ofbci.in.gov

The nomination deadline for The Governor's Award for Service and Volunteerism has been extended until Tuesday, March 14th. All award nomination packets must be received in the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives by 12 noon on Tuesday, March 14th. If you have any questions reference nominations, please call Johanna at 317-234-4234. Award recipients will be honored and recognized at the Awards Dinner on Monday evening, April 10th, at the Marriott Downtown Indianapolis. It will be a memorable event!

Indiana Department of Correction Job Fair March 14 and 15, 2006

Indiana Department of Correction will be hosting Job Fairs on March 14th and 15th at the Correctional Industrial Facility in Pendleton and at the Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library, from 1 PM – 7 PM on both days. Applicants are encouraged to complete an on-line application prior to the job fair by logging on to www.IndianaStateJobs.org Priority interview consideration will be given to qualified candidates who apply online prior to the job fair. For more information contact: 1-866-DOC-HIRE or visit their website at www.in.gov/indcorrection

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HOOSIERS MAKE IT HAPPEN

Hope Crisis Response Network (HCRN), a nonprofit disaster response and recovery agency headquartered in Elkhart, Indiana, unveiled "Hope City" on March 6th. "Hope City" is HCRN's new fleet of mobile disaster response units that will be deployed to disaster sites to provide housing, meals, and other amenities to volunteer workers.

Contributions from a partnership of Hoosier churches and coordination from HCRN combined for a great response. Kevin Cox, founder and CEO for HCRN, said "Although base camps are nothing new, this is the first base camp

which is 100 percent mobile. This will greatly enhance our ability to respond to disasters around the country, both short-term and long-term." HCRN formulated the vision for this project more than four years ago and is very appreciative to all of their partners who contributed to bringing "Hope City" to fruition. Kevin further stated "This is truly a celebration of two things, providing the mobile units to house volunteers and seeing the giving attitude as groups plan their work weeks in Mississippi."

Following their open house in Indianapolis on Monday, they began the caravan ride to Gulfport, Mississippi, where "Hope City" will be stationed to provide food and shelter for the volunteer force that will be rebuilding homes. The caravan was slated to arrive at the Gulfport base camp on Wednesday, March 8th.

Three mobile units make up the first phase of "Hope City." A 32' kitchen and laundry unit will provide meals for the volunteers. A 36' bathroom facility includes separate shower and toilet facilities for men and women and the third unit is a 50' bunkhouse with sleeping quarters for 20 people and another bathroom facility. A second bunkhouse is already under construction and will join the base camp later this spring. The basic cargo trailers were manufactured in Elkhart, Indiana by American Hauler and they were converted to HCRN's specifications by specialty converter, Techworks, Inc, also of Elkhart.

HCRN has assisted in responding to the following disasters: terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center; wildfires in California; tornadoes in Indiana, Tennessee, and Ohio; flooding in southern Indiana; ice storms in the Muncie area; and hurricanes in Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, and Florida.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY !! Rx for Indiana



On Thursday, Governor Mitch Daniels celebrated the one-year anniversary of the Rx for Indiana program which has already matched more than 117,000 Hoosiers with programs providing prescription drug assistance. That figure is above the program's initial outreach goal of 100,000 Hoosiers. The governor recognized the many partner organizations, including OFBCI, and volunteers making this program a success.

"When we launched Rx for Indiana, we knew it wouldn't be successful without the aggressive support of dozens of partner organizations, and hundreds of volunteers," Governor Daniels stated. "This has been a great year, but we will continue to reach out to the thousands of Hoosiers who can and will benefit from this program and the millions of additional dollars that will be saved."

Rx for Indiana provides a one-stop shop for patients, health care providers, and caregivers to obtain information about more than 2,500 medications available free or at a significantly reduced price through more than 475 programs offered by pharmaceutical manufacturers, the government or other organizations. Nearly 70 partner organizations are working to help Hoosiers find help with their prescription medication costs through Rx for Indiana. For more information, please visit their web site:



www.RxforIndiana.org

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Faith-Based and Community Initiatives Workshop

On Friday, May 12, 2006, (8AM – 5 PM) the White House and the Departments of Justice, Commerce, Agriculture, Labor, Veterans Affairs, Health & Human Services, Housing & Urban Development, and Education, the Agency for International Development, and the Small Business Administration will host a targeted workshop in Cincinnati to help faith-based and community organizations learn more about President Bush's Faith-Based and Community Initiative. The workshop will be held at the Hyatt Regency Cincinnati, 151 West Fifth Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202. This event is geared towards representatives from social service groups that have a track record of applying for government funding, especially those from groups that have not yet won grants.

The workshop is part of a series of regional conferences and targeted workshops that are being held around the country. The targeted workshops will offer grant writing tutorials for certain Federal grant programs that present some of the greatest opportunities for faith-based and community organizations. They will also provide the occasion for Federal officials to meet with State and local grant administrators about equal treatment regulations and facilitate opportunities to network with government officials.

The conference is free, but pre-registration is required. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Visit www.fbci.gov to register online. They strongly encourage you to register online by Monday, May 8. For further information, please call 202-456-6718 or send an email to fbci@dtihq.com

The Welborn Baptist Foundation, Inc. will focus on six areas when it decides which not-for-profits will receive \$4 million in grant money this year. The six areas are: School-based health; early childhood development; faith-based initiatives; promotion of healthy adolescent development; improvements in community health status; and a general opportunity category that must address health and education. The overall theme of the grants continues to focus on strengthening community values in lifelong education, healthy lifestyles, and personal and community responsibility.

At least 10 percent of the funds granted this year will go to church and faith-based organizations. Any not-for-profit that wishes to apply for a grant has until 12:00 noon on March 31st to submit a letter of interest. The foundation provides grants to not-for-profit organizations that significantly contribute to improving community health in a 14-county area in southeastern Illinois, southwestern Indiana and western Kentucky. Information about funding availability as well as the criteria for the letter of interest are available at www.welbornfdn.org

